

**SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
(PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

**August 5, 2003**

**7:00 PM**

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

Mayor Baines called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman Smith.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Wihby, Gatsas, Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Pinard, O’Neil,  
Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault, Forest

Mayor Baines advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak; that comments shall be limited to two minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak and any comments must be directed to the Chair.

Mayor Baines requests that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Jeff Kassel, 22 Appleton Street stated:

I came here tonight because of a story in the *Union Leader* on the front page of the Manchester section that discussed an alleged \$2.4 million in City loans to upgrade the McQuade’s building downtown and I understand that has already been passed and it turns out it wasn’t City money so there really isn’t a whole lot of reason for me to be here to complain tonight about that. As long as I am up here I thought I would take the time to criticize once again the stadium project that is going forward. The thing that is really disturbing to me about it is not just the amount of money, which is \$27.5 million of public money that is being given to a developer and I realize that there are several other reasons that this is happening but what I see is an asset, the City’s asset, a park on the river that is suddenly being turned into a \$27.5 million liability. I don’t agree with it. One of the reasons I am running for office...and there are a lot of other people in this town who don’t agree with what is going on. There are a lot of development costs in this town taking place at a time of a decline in the economy. I just thought I would register my objections to a lot of the development that has gone on in this town at this time.

Karl A. Tiederman, 81 Riley Avenue stated:

I am a healthcare voter. Tonight on your agenda you will have a resolution being presented about healthcare. 177 cities and towns in the State of New Hampshire have already approved such a resolution and I hope that you will listen to John Thyng as he explains the healthcare voter resolution. He represents New Hampshire for Healthcare and we are here tonight to urge you to listen to the man and take action on what you have to offer.

Tim Decker, 506 East High Street stated:

I would just say ditto to Karl. We are hoping that you will give John Thyng your ear, that you will listen to what he has to say and hopefully adopt the resolution. We just simply ask that all of the Presidential candidates from both parties are viewed from the perspective of them each having a plan that provides for quality affordable healthcare and also has a method to pay for it.

Bob Shaw, 172 Arah Street stated:

I am here again, your Honor, talking about the Charter taking those two minutes that I am allowed because we have no money to push the Charter so we have to take every moment we can to bring it to your attention. I did want to mention to you, Mayor, that you made a remark to Brad Cook when he sat down the other day, not a joke incidentally, but a remark that you thought you had an understanding with him that only one person would speak for the minority. I bring that up, Sir, because you had no understanding with me about any of the subject matter but that was your remark and it was repeated many, many times on Channel 22. I bring Brad's remarks to this Board. He said that one of the problems with the Charter is the fact that it only passed 5-4. The reason it only passed 5-4 was that I was the fifth vote. The people on the one side did not change their mind on the issues even though you might think that people were changing their minds and the people on this side didn't change their minds much either. The fact is that maybe I changed my mind once or twice and that is the way that I operate so don't get upset with the Charter Commission because there was a 5-4 vote. In fact Mayor this is what I really wanted to bring up to you that Brad's remark said that you shouldn't approve this Charter because that it was a 5-4 vote but if that is true than Mayor Baines is not really the Mayor here tonight because out of every nine votes cast, Sir, you only got five of them. We chose you to lead this City because five of us thought you could do the job and four of us didn't think you could do the job. It is the same way with the Charter, Sir. Five votes for the Charter and four against. I know my time is up but I wanted to apologize and have you convey my apology to Catholic Medical Center where I had on public access television said that I thought they had a box at Verizon Center. So when you meet the President or when you go to the groundbreaking I wish you would convey my apologies for a remark that was not true and that you might also look at the President of the Catholic Medical Center and say now why does she get paid seven times more than me. I hope that you will think about that.

There being no one else present wishing to speak, on motion of Alderman Lopez duly seconded by Alderman Forest it was voted to take comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business was presented and on motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Forest it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk